From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech: Leaked Documents Show Facebook Used Data Access as Bargaining Chip Over Rivals
Date: Tuesday, April 16, 2019 5:39:53 AM

By Sam Sabin

Top Stories

- Facebook Inc. leveraged its collection of user data as a bargaining tool to control how competitors and third parties use its platform, according to roughly 4,000 leaked company documents largely from between 2011 and 2015 and shared with a few news outlets. The documents, of which about 400 have previously been reported, paint a picture of Facebook deciding whether to reward or deny access to its data based on spending or connections to Facebook executives, though the social media platform denies giving preferential treatment to partners or developers. (NBC News)

- YouTube mistakenly flagged videos of the Notre Dame Cathedral fire as footage from the 9/11 terrorist attacks - showing a snippet from Encyclopedia Britannica about the attacks below several clips of the Paris

fires. YouTube rolled out the text tool to combat misinformation on the platform last year, and a YouTube spokesperson said the company is disabling the tool for Notre Dame videos as the feature is "triggered algorithmically and our systems sometimes make the wrong call." (Bloomberg)

- Twitter Inc. left tweets threatening the life of Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.) up on the platform over the weekend to allow law enforcement to investigate the threats, according to a source close to the company, after President Donald Trump shared a video Friday that implied Omar did not take the 9/11 attacks seriously. Twitter said it usually removes threatening tweets as they are reported, but the source said the platform left them up this time as the Capitol Police work on the issue. (BuzzFeed News)

Chart Review

Big Tech's Big Tax Ruse: Industry Splurges on Buybacks
Bloomberg

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

04/16/2019

LocoMoco Security Conference

04/17/2019

HardwareCon 2019

LocoMoco Security Conference

Cato Institute event on "The Twenty-Six Words That Created the Internet"	12:00 pm
NTIA BroadbandUSA webinar	2:00 pm
New America's discussion on how to innovate government	6:00 pm

04/18/2019

HardwareCon 2019	
LocoMoco Security Conference	
TechCrunch Sessions: Robotics + AI 2019	8:00 am
Engine's lunch panel focused on privacy laws in the U.S. and abroad	12:00 pm

04/19/2019

LocoMoco Security Conference

View full calendar

The Brands That Define American Culture and Commerce

Morning Consult analyzed over 400,000 survey interviews to determine this year's rankings. See who made the list.

General

Microsoft wants to unleash its AI expertise on climate change
Eillie Anzilotti, Fast Company

In 2012, before declaring your company "carbon neutral" was de rigueur, Microsoft committed to that standard across its operations. Since then, Microsoft has continued to take steps toward cleaning up its own act, purchasing enough green power to equal its electricity consumption, investing in reforestation projects, and setting the target of reducing its emissions 75% by 2030.

Lyft will run 'continuous' background checks on its drivers
Christine Fisher, engadget

A lot can happen in a year, so it's probably wise that Lyft will no longer rely solely on annual background checks for its drivers. The ride-sharing company will now run daily criminal monitoring of its active drivers and will receive immediate notification of any disqualifying criminal convictions.

New York City's algorithm task force is fracturing
Colin Lecher, The Verge

In 2017, New York City passed a law to keep the city's automated systems in check. Local Law 49, the first law of its kind in the nation, established a task force to examine the hidden algorithms governing life in New York and suggested a way for experts to study those tools for error and bias.

Foxconn's Terry Gou Says He's Considering a Run for Taiwan Presidency
Debby Wu, Bloomberg

Billionaire Foxconn founder Terry Gou said he was considering a run for Taiwan's presidency, adding a powerful symbol of Chinese business ties to the field of potential challengers against the island's leader.

Uber says it fixed electric bikes that had similar problems to bikes Lyft recalled
Faiz Siddiqui, The Washington Post

Uber acknowledged Monday that it had modified some of its electric bikes recently after the company encountered a braking problem similar to the one that prompted rival Lyft to recall its own electric bikes in several cities over the weekend.

Stocks Gain as Earnings Lift Outlook; Bonds Steady: Markets Wrap

Yakob Peterseil, Bloomberg

Stocks advanced globally on Tuesday as investors showed confidence the equity rally will find fresh support from the deluge of corporate earnings due this week. The dollar strengthened while Treasuries were steady.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

Apple v Qualcomm jury includes pilot, former MLB pitcher, retired nurse
Shara Tibken, CNET

A pilot, a former baseball pitcher and retired nurse walk into a bar... It may sound like the beginning of a bad joke, but that's actually a few of the professions held by the jury members selected for the Apple v. Qualcomm trial in San Diego.

An Unlikely Revolutionary: How Tristan Harris went from working at Apple and Google to consulting with heads of state about how to reform Silicon Valley
Troy Wolverton, Business Insider

Over the last six years, Tristan Harris has forced us to think differently about the devices and digital services we use every day. First as a product manager at Google and later as an outside critic of the tech industry, he's shone a light on what's been called the attention economy, the way our phones and apps and web services are constantly diverting and distracting us.

Telecom, Wireless and TV

Sen. Blumenthal joins chorus offering robocall remedy with ROBOCOP Act
Griffin Connolly, Roll Call

Sen. Richard Blumenthal was the latest in a chorus of lawmakers from both parties to decry robocalls, an irritant that afflicts nearly anyone in the U.S. who owns a mobile phone. The Connecticut Democrat on Monday reintroduced the so-called ROBOCOP Act that would require mobile phone companies to

provide free robocall-blocking technology to their customers.

With billions to spend, feds unsure who lacks broadband
Anthony Izaguirre, The Associated Press

There is a way around the notoriously sluggish internet in West Virginia. You just need a car and some time.

U.S. to press allies to keep Huawei out of 5G in Prague meeting: sources
Christopher Bing and Jack Stubbs, Reuters

The United States will push its allies at a meeting in Prague next month to adopt shared security and policy measures that will make it more difficult for China's Huawei to dominate 5G telecommunications networks, according to people familiar with the matter and documents seen by Reuters.

Google will pay Louisville millions to fix roads after failed Fiber experiment
Jon Porter, The Verge

Google has agreed to pay the Louisville Metro Government $3.84 million over the next 20 months to repair the damage caused to the city by its ill-fated Google Fiber service. The money will be used by local authorities to remove the company's infrastructure from the city's roads and to repave areas where needed after the service ceased operation yesterday.

Amazon Finds It's Hard to Run a Real Sweepstakes in the Robocall Era
Brad Stone, Bloomberg

Early this month, while I was waiting in line for coffee at the San Francisco International Airport, I got a strange call on my cell phone from someone claiming to work at the very company I was about to visit in Seattle. "Hi, this is Max from Amazon Whole Foods," said the cheerful voice.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

Over 19K sign petition to suspend Trump from social media over Omar video

Emily Birnbaum, The Hill

A petition calling for Twitter and Facebook to suspend President Trump's social media accounts earned over 19,000 signatures over the weekend after the president posted a controversial video featuring freshman Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.).

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez quits Facebook, calls social media a 'public health risk'
Hamza Shaban, The Washington Post

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, whose mastery of social media has helped drive the national conversation and shed light on the inner workings of congressional power, has given up on the most popular social network in the world.

Russia: Twitter, Facebook have nine months to comply with data law - Ifax
Maia Kiselyova, Reuters

Twitter and Facebook have nine months to comply with data law by moving Russian user data onto servers in Russia, Interfax cited communications watchdog head Alexander Zharov as saying on Tuesday.

Amazon flooded with thousands of fake reviews, report claims
Chloe Taylor, CNBC

Amazon is flooded with thousands of fake five-star reviews, an investigation published Tuesday has claimed. The probe, carried out by U.K. consumer advocacy group Which?, analyzed hundreds of tech products on the site and found that potentially false reviews were helping unknown brands dominate searches for popular items.

Twitter secretly verified Jack Dorsey's mom and thousands of others despite 'pause'
Karissa Bell, Mashable

Jack Dorsey's mother and father, the '80s band Whitesnake, a "war room" associated with Donald Trump's reelection campaign - these are a few of the more than 10,000 accounts Twitter has quietly verified in recent months, despite putting its verification program on hold. The company has said little

publicly about verification, which it suspended in 2017 following backlash over its verification of a white supremacist.

Cybersecurity and Privacy

US Government Admits It Doesn't Know If Assange Cracked Password For Manning
Lorenzo Franceschi-Bicchierai, Motherboard

The US government does not have any evidence that WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange succeeded in cracking a password for whistleblower Chelsea Manning, according to a newly unsealed affidavit written by an FBI agent. Last week, Assange was escorted out of the Ecuadorian embassy in London, and arrested for breaching bail in connection to allegations of sexual misconduct in Sweden.

Inside One Lawmaker's Proposal for a Privacy Bill of Rights
Jack Corrigan, Nextgov

The latest privacy framework introduced on Capitol Hill would offer consumers sweeping control of their data while forcing companies to be more transparent about how they use and secure that information. The Privacy Bill of Rights Act, introduced Friday by Sen. Ed Markey, D-Mass., also takes aim at a number of related big data issues, including algorithmic bias, biometric information sharing and data breach notifications.

Microsoft Email Hack Shows The Lurking Danger of Customer Support
Lily Hay Newman, Wired

On Friday night, Microsoft sent notification emails to an unknown number of its individual email users-across Outlook, MSN, and Hotmail-warning them about a data breach. Between January 1 and March 28 of this year, hackers used a set of stolen credentials for a Microsoft customer support platform to access account data like email addresses in messages, message subject lines, and folder names inside accounts.

Big Companies Thought Insurance Covered a Cyberattack. They May Be Wrong.
Adam Satariano and Nicole Perlroth, The New York Times

Within days of a cyberattack, warehouses of the snack foods company Mondelez International filled with a backlog of Oreo cookies and Ritz crackers. Mondelez, owner of dozens of well-known food brands like Cadbury chocolate and Philadelphia cream cheese, was one of the hundreds of companies struck by the so-called NotPetya cyberstrike in 2017.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

The Robots That Manage the Managers
Sue Shellenbarger, The Wall Street Journal

Raquel Collings often has morning coffee with her management coach. She reviews her goals in her new job as a corporate manager and ponders whether she's spending her time wisely.

We Built a (Legal) Facial Recognition Machine for $60
Sahil Chinoy, The New York Times

Most people pass through some type of public space in their daily routine - sidewalks, roads, train stations. Thousands walk through Bryant Park every day.

This is not the time to abandon NASA's Space Launch System
Jonathan Ward, The Hill

Last December, China became the first nation to land on the far side of the Moon. China intends to launch a lunar sample return mission later this year. Israel's Beresheet probe failed during an attempted lunar landing on April 11, but the mission made Israel the seventh nation to put a spacecraft into lunar orbit.

Research Reports

Data Center Optimization: Additional Agency Actions Needed to Meet OMB Goals
Government Accountability Office

The 24 agencies participating in the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Data Center Optimization Initiative (DCOI) reported mixed progress

toward achieving OMB's goals for closing data centers and realizing the associated savings by September 2018. As of August 2018, 13 agencies reported that they had met, or had plans to meet, all of their OMB-assigned closure goals by the deadline.

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